



Columbine Connections

Our Counseling Department is here for you

At Columbine, teachers, students and families have access to bilingual counseling and support in many forms. All services are free of charge and confidential between the family and the counselor.

We provide classroom presentations, crisis interventions as needed, small groups, and individual and family therapy. All children are eligible for all services.

In the classroom, all students participate in groups that practice conflict resolution and other social skills. We want to build on what teachers are already creating

with their students and provide additional skills and activities to support and fur-



ther their work. Our classroom groups teach kids how to read the feelings of others, care for themselves emotionally, and develop strong and meaningful friendships with peers.

Outside the classroom, Marilee, Beatriz, and Lisa also offer small social skill-building groups for students who are struggling with more complex issues including grief and loss, peer problems, preparation

for middle school, and anger management.

Also, Beatriz and Marilee provide short-term

(Continued on page 3)

Columbine Elementary
3130 Repllier St.
Boulder, CO 80304
303-443-0792
FRS: 303-441-4059

October 5, 2007

October Calendar

PTA Meeting (6:30 pm-Art Room)	8
Carnival (5:30-8:00 PM)	11
No School (Professional Development Day)	12
Parent/Teacher Conferences	15,17
Book Fair	15-18
Preschool Story Hour (9:30-10:30 Library)	22
Parent/Teacher Conferences	23,25

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Notes will be going home soon regarding parent/teacher conferences. These meetings are important times to connect with teachers about your child's learning and progress. Please be prompt and come prepared with questions and concerns.

Remember, involved parents make the difference!



Join the *Lights on After School* celebration

Thursday, October 18, 2007, thousands of children across America will join parents, educators, and community and business leaders to rally in support of the after school programs that keep kids safe, inspire academic achievement and help working families. The

City of Boulder and the Boulder Valley School District are sponsoring an event on the 1330 Block of the Pearl Street Mall from 3:30 to 6:30 showcasing the talent and skills gained by children



through after-school programs including music, science, theater, art and more. Speakers are: Jared Polis, former Chairman of the Colorado State Board of Education; Chris King, BVSD superintendent; and Mark Ruzzin City of Boulder mayor.

The Book Fair is coming....

Our annual book fair will be taking place in the Columbine library October 15th-18th. This event gives children and parents a wonderful selection of best-selling titles to purchase for the holidays or your home library. Each class will have a preview visit and a purchasing visit during the school day. Our preview day will be Monday, October 15th. There will be no sales that day so be prepared to make a list. On Tuesday, and Thursday, October 16 and 18, the book fair will be open from 8:00 AM—4:00 PM. Families are invited to browse and buy books on these days after school. On Wednesday, October 17 (parent-teacher conference night), the



book fair will be open from 8:00 AM—7:00 PM.

Book Fair Hours

Oct. 15—Preview day
Oct. 16—8:00AM—4:00 PM Sales day
Oct. 17—8:00AM—7:00 PM Sales day
Oct. 18—8:00AM—12:00 PM Sales day

The book fair also provides you with the opportunity to go through your children's books at home and donate to the library those books in good condition that you no longer wish to keep. They will be placed on a 10 cent table for all children to buy. Please bring your donated books to the Columbine library.

We need volunteers to help with the book fair. If you can help us, please sign up in the library or call Melissa at 303-443-0792.



PTA holds first meeting

The first PTA meeting of the year was filled with news and planning. Our principal shared news about the bond issue plans for Columbine. We're still in waiting mode as the district determines whether they have the extra funds that would be required to build a new school. The Superintendent, Chris King, promised a decision by the end of October. More information about the PTA Reflections program was presented. This year's theme is "I can make a difference." Students can submit art, stories, photography, poetry or dance which supports the theme. Submissions are judged

and forwarded for national competition. For details, check the info that went home in Friday folders last week. A committee was formed to oversee the assembly of an altar for *Día de los Muertos*. If you're interested in helping, leave your name in the office. Look for the altar in the lobby towards the end of the month. The remainder of the meeting was spent planning an organizing the October 11th Carnival. We are grateful for all the parents who are giving their time to make the carnival our most successful yet!

School Board Forum

There are four school board seats up for re-election this fall. There will be a candidate forum at the BVSD Ed Center (6500 E. Arapahoe) on **Monday, October 15th from 7—8:30 PM**. Candidates will be making short presentations and answering written questions from the audience. Inform your vote by attending this forum.



From the office

We have several administrative reminders from the office this month.



New lunch rules: The cafeteria has made some changes to lunch policy. We are only allowing 3 charges. Students who exceed the charge limit will have a mark placed on their hand to remind you to send money. Instead of regular lunch, they will be served a small lunch

of a sandwich and milk.

Parking: There is **ABSOLUTELY NO PARKING** in either of the staff parking lots. If you must leave your car, park outside the school or on Glenwood. Parking in the lot disrupts traffic flow and presents a danger to the students.

Dismissal: School ends at 3:00 PM. Students who haven't been picked up are brought in the building at 3:15. We con-

tinue to have a problem with late pick-up and ask that you be considerate of this repeated request.

Absences: If your child is going to be absent, please call before 9:30 AM so we can make the change before attendance is electronically compiled. Call 303-447-5437 or 303-443-0792 to excuse an absence.

Thank you for your help with these important requests!!

October 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 <i>PTA Meeting 6:30 PM</i>	9	10	11 <i>Carnival 5:30— 8PM</i>	12 <i>No School</i>	13
14	15 <i>P/T Conf 3:30-6:30</i>	Book Fair all week in library			19	20
21	22 <i>Pre-school story hour 9:30- 10:30</i>	23 <i>P/T Conf 3:30-6:30</i>	24	25 <i>P/T Conf 3:30-6:30</i>	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Improving Parent Communication

For several years the PTA has been discussing the need to create a phone tree for each classroom so parents can be informed via phone of important events here at school. Preliminary phone trees has been created and teachers are currently making changes and suggesting one parent as the representative for the classroom to initiate calls. This idea won't work without your full participation. Here's what you can do to help:

- Keep your phone numbers updated with the office.
- Read all information that will be coming home later this month about the phone tree.
- Make phone calls in a timely manner.

We hope this new effort helps keep all our families in the communication loop here at Columbine.

...Columbine counselors (con't from page 1)

individual, family, and group therapy to help with more personal needs such as single parenting, health and physical fitness, illness, loss, separation and divorce, domestic and neighborhood violence, racism, and more.

- Beatriz has been counseling Latino and other immigrant families since 1975. This is her 8th year at Columbine. A Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, she has experience resolving immigration-related, acculturation, grief, separation, and divorce issues. She and her family immigrated to the United States from Argentina when she was in 5th grade.
- In her 2nd year at Columbine,



Social Worker. A native of Colorado, she has recently moved back here from Chicago, where she spent many years working with many cultures of Spanish-speaking people in very high-risk and dangerous urban neighborhoods. She has experience working in every level of the educa-

Marilee has been practicing psychotherapy for 16 years and is a Licensed Clinical

tional system, community organizations, clinics, churches, and courtrooms.

If you would like services or to know more about what we offer, you can contact Wanda, Carrie, Beatriz or Marilee @ 303-443-0792.

Beatriz Blum, MA, LMFT - Family Resource Mental Health therapist

Marilee Snyder, LCSW, DCSW - Family Resource Mental Health therapist

Lisa Hassin, M.Ed., L.P.C.—School Counselor

Carrie Evans, MSW, School Social Worker

Have you checked out our website lately? It's full of great info!

<http://bvsd.org/schools/columbine/Pages/default.aspx>

Important Notice

PTA Meeting
Monday, October 8th, 2007
6:30 p.m. in the Art Room

We have many activities to plan and organize
PLEASE JOIN US!

Child care and translation provided.



Noticia importante

Reunión de PTA
Es el lunes 8 de octubre del 2007
a las 6:30 p.m. en el salón de arte

Muchos actividades al plan y organizan.
¡NECESITAMOS SU AYUDA!

Habr  cuidado de ni os.
Interpretaci n disponible